

Amendments to the Claims

Please enter the following amendments to the claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for accessing an electronic commerce function, comprising:

transmitting, from a first network location, a first signal including information identifying an entity and information identifying an electronic commerce function associated with the entity;

receiving responsive to the transmitted first signal, at the first network location and from a second network location, a second signal including information indicating a selection of the electronic commerce function identified in the first signal; and

transmitting, from the first network location and responsive to the received second signal, a third signal including information identifying a network address associated with an electronic commerce application and information associated with the ~~entity~~; entity.

wherein the transmitted third signal is operable to cause transmission of a fourth signal to the second network location from a third network location, the fourth signal including information associated with invoking the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application based at least in part upon the information associated with the entity included in the third signal.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal includes at least a portion of the information identifying the entity included in the transmitted first signal.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the third signal is transmitted to the second network location, and further comprising:

further transmitting the third signal from the second network location to the third network ~~location~~; location.

wherein the fourth signal is transmitted responsive to the further transmitted third signal.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

transmitting, from the third network location and responsive to the transmitted third signal, a fifth signal including a request for other information associated with the entity; and

receiving, at the third network location, a sixth signal transmitted responsive to the fifth signal and including the requested other information associated with the ~~entity~~; entity,

wherein the fourth signal is transmitted subsequent to the receipt of the sixth signal.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

presenting the information identifying the entity and identifying the electronic commerce function included in the transmitted first signal at the second network location via a contact list user ~~interface~~; interface,

wherein the information identifying the entity is presented in association with the information identifying the electronic commerce ~~function~~; and function, and

wherein the selection of the electronic commerce function is based at least in part upon the presented information identifying the electronic commerce function.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein:

the information identifying an electronic commerce function associated with the entity included in the transmitted first signal is first information identifying an electronic commerce function associated with the ~~entity~~; entity,

the first signal includes second information identifying another function associated with the ~~entity~~; entity,

the other function is one of an electronic commerce function, or another function other than an electronic commerce ~~function~~; and function, and

the second information identifying the other function included in the transmitted first signal is presented in association with the information identifying the entity via the contact list user interface.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the third signal does not include information identifying a network address associated with the entity.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

presenting the information associated with invoking the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application included in the transmitted fourth signal at the second network location via an electronic commerce user ~~interface~~; interface.

wherein the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application is associated with at least one of electronic bill ~~presentment and~~ presentment or electronic payment.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein:

the second network location is associated with a ~~user~~; user,

the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application is associated with electronic bill ~~presentment~~; presentment.

the presented information associated with invoking the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application includes at least one of i) billing information associated with a bill from the entity for the user, ii) billing information associated with one or more past bills from the entity for the user, iii) billing information associated with a bill from the user for the ~~entity~~; and entity, or iv) billing information associated with one or more past bills from the user for the ~~entity~~; and entity, and

billing information includes at least one of i) summary billing ~~information~~; and information, or ii) bill detail information.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein:

the second network location is associated with a ~~user;~~ user.

the electronic commerce application is associated with electronic bill presentment, and

~~if the electronic commerce function is associated with electronic bill presentment, the~~
electronic commerce user interface is one of i) a biller activation user interface pre-populated
with at least a portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted
third ~~signal, and~~ signal, or ii) an invoicing activation user interface pre-populated with at least a
portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third ~~signal; and~~
signal.

~~if the electronic commerce function is associated with electronic payment, the electronic~~
~~commerce user interface is one of i) a payment request user interface pre-populated with at least~~
~~a portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal, the~~
~~pre-populated information identifying the entity as a payee, ii) a pending payment request user~~
~~interface associated with a pending payment to the entity on behalf of the user, iii) a payment~~
~~history user interface associated with one or more prior payments to the entity on behalf of the~~
~~user, iv) a payee setup user interface pre-populated with at least of portion of the information~~
~~associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal, and (v) a request confirmation~~
~~screen for presentation after submission of a payment request.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the second network location is
associated with a user, wherein the information identifying the entity is first information
identifying the entity, wherein the information identifying the electronic commerce function is
first information identifying the electronic commerce function, and further comprising:

storing contact information associated with the entity in a contact list associated with the
user; and

retrieving the stored contact ~~information;~~ information.

wherein the stored contact information ~~includes the~~ includes second information
identifying the ~~entity and~~ entity and second information identifying the electronic commerce
~~function;~~ function.

wherein the first information identifying the entity and the first information identifying the electronic commerce function included in the transmitted first ~~signal is~~ signal include at least a portion of the retrieved contact ~~information; and~~ information, and

wherein the contact list is stored at one of the first network location or another network location other than the second network location.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein:

the user is one of a plurality of ~~users; users, and~~

the stored contact information includes at least one of i) private contact information designated by the one user as information not available for access by at least a portion of the plurality of users other than the one user, ii) public contact information designated by the one user as information available for access by the plurality of ~~users; and~~ users, or iii) hidden contact information not received from the one user and not available for access by any of the plurality of ~~users; users.~~

~~the information identifying the entity included in the transmitted first signal excludes hidden contact information; and~~

~~the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal includes hidden contact information.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 12,~~ claim 26, further comprising:

receiving, at the first network location, a fifth signal including hidden contact information associated with the entity, the fifth signal transmitted from a network location associated with the electronic commerce application; and

storing the hidden contact information included in the received fifth signal in the contact list.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A system for accessing an electronic commerce function, comprising:

a communications interface configured to (i) transmit to a remote network location a first signal including information identifying an entity and information identifying an electronic commerce function associated with the entity, (ii) receive a second signal, transmitted responsive to the first signal and from the remote network location, including information indicating a user selection of the electronic commerce function identified in the first signal, and (iii) transmit a third signal including information identifying a network address associated with an electronic commerce application and information associated with the entity; and

a processor configured to cause the communications interface to transmit the first signal, and to cause the communications interface to transmit the third signal responsive to the receipt of the second ~~signal~~; signal,

wherein the transmitted third signal is operable to cause transmission of a fourth signal to the remote network location from another network location, the fourth signal including information associated with invoking the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application based at least in part upon the information associated with the entity included in the third signal.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16, wherein:

the third signal is transmitted to the remote network ~~location~~; location,

the remote network location further transmits the third signal to the other network ~~location~~; and location, and

the fourth signal is transmitted responsive to the further transmitted third signal.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16, wherein:

the third signal is transmitted to the other network ~~location;~~ location,

the other network location transmits, responsive to receipt of the third signal, a fifth signal including a request for other information associated with the entity, and receives a sixth signal including the requested other information associated with the ~~entity; and~~ entity, and

the fourth signal is transmitted by the other network location responsive to receipt of the sixth signal.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the remote network location is ~~associated with~~ associated with one of a plurality of users, and further comprising:

a memory configured to store contact information associated with the entity in a contact list associated with the one ~~user;~~ user,

wherein the information identifying the entity and information identifying the electronic commerce function included in the transmitted first signal is presented to the one user at the remote location, the information identifying the entity presented in association with the information identifying the electronic commerce function via a contact list user ~~interface;~~ interface,

wherein the selection of the electronic commerce function is based at least in part upon the presented information identifying the electronic commerce ~~function;~~ function, and

wherein the stored contact information includes the information identifying the entity and information identifying the electronic commerce ~~function;~~ function.

~~wherein the stored contact information includes at least one of i) private contact information designated by the one user as information not available for access by at least a portion of the plurality of users other than the one user, ii) public contact information designated by the one user as information available for access by the plurality of users, and iii) hidden contact information not received from the one user and not available for access by any of the plurality of users;~~

~~wherein the information identifying the entity included in the transmitted first signal excludes hidden contact information; and~~

~~wherein the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal includes hidden contact information.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16, wherein:

the transmitted information associated with invoking the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application is presented to a user at the remote network location via an electronic commerce user interface pre-populated with at least a portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third ~~signal; and~~ signal, and

the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application is associated with at least one of electronic bill ~~presentment and~~ presentment or electronic payment.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for accessing an electronic commerce function, comprising:

receiving a first signal at a first network location, the first signal transmitted from a second network location and including information associated with an entity, information identifying an electronic commerce function associated with the entity, and information identifying a network address associated with an electronic commerce application;

transmitting, from the first network location and responsive to the received first signal, a second signal to the received network address, the second signal requesting access to the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application and including at least a portion of the received information associated with the entity; and

receiving a third signal at the first network location, the third signal transmitted from a third network location responsive to the transmitted second signal and including information, based at least in part upon the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted second signal, associated with invoking the electronic commerce function.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

displaying, at the first network location and based at least in part upon the received first signal, information identifying the entity, information identifying the electronic commerce function, and a link to access the electronic commerce ~~function~~; application,

wherein the second signal is transmitted responsive to an activation of the displayed link.

23. (Currently Amended) A system for accessing an electronic commerce function, comprising:

a memory configured to store information associated with an entity, information identifying an electronic commerce function associated with the entity, and information identifying a network address associated with an electronic commerce application;

a communications interface configured to (i) receive a first signal requesting access to at least a portion of the stored information, and (ii) transmit a second signal; and

a processor configured to (i) retrieve, responsive to the receipt of the first signal, the stored information, information identifying the electronic commerce function, the stored information identifying the network address, and at least a portion of the stored information associated with the entity, and (ii) cause the communications interface to transmit the second ~~signal~~; signal,

wherein the transmitted second signal includes the retrieved information and is operable at a network location to cause transmission of a third signal, the third signal requesting access to the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application and including at least a portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted second ~~signal~~; and signal, and

wherein the transmitted third signal is operable to cause transmission of a fourth signal to the network location, the fourth signal including information associated with invoking the electronic commerce ~~function~~ application based at least in part upon the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal.

24. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the first network location and the third network location comprise a single network location.

25. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein:

the second network location is associated with a user,

the electronic commerce application is associated with electronic payment, and

the electronic commerce user interface is one of i) a payment request user interface pre-populated with at least a portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal, the pre-populated information identifying the entity as a payee, ii) a pending payment request user interface associated with a pending payment to the entity on behalf of the user, iii) a payment history user interface associated with one or more prior payments to the entity on behalf of the user, iv) a payee setup user interface pre-populated with at least a portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal, or (v) a request confirmation screen for presentation after submission of a payment request.

26. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein:

the stored contact information includes hidden contact information,

the information identifying the entity included in the transmitted first signal excludes hidden contact information, and

the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal includes hidden contact information.

27. (New) The system of claim 19, wherein:

the stored contact information includes at least one of i) private contact information designated by the one user as information not available for access by at least a portion of the plurality of users other than the one user, ii) public contact information designated by the one user as information available for access by the plurality of users, or iii) hidden contact information not received from the one user and not available for access by any of the plurality of users.

28. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein:

the stored contact information includes hidden contact information,
the information identifying the entity included in the transmitted first signal excludes hidden contact information, and

the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal includes hidden contact information.

29. (New) The system of claim 16, wherein:

the information identifying the entity and the information identifying an electronic commerce function included in the first signal is presented to a user at the remote network location via a contact list user interface,

the information identifying the entity is presented in association with the information identifying the electronic commerce function, and

the user selection of the electronic commerce function is based at least in part upon the presented information identifying the electronic commerce function.

30. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein:

the information identifying an electronic commerce function associated with the entity

included in the transmitted first signal is first information identifying an electronic commerce function associated with the entity,

the first signal includes second information identifying another function associated with the entity,

the other function is one of an electronic commerce function, or another function other than an electronic commerce function, and

the second information identifying the other function included in the transmitted first signal is presented in association with the information identifying the entity via the contact list user interface.

31. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein:

the electronic commerce application is associated with electronic bill presentment,

the presented information associated with invoking the electronic commerce application includes at least one of i) billing information associated with a bill from the entity for the user, ii) billing information associated with one or more past bills from the entity for the user, iii) billing information associated with a bill from the user for the entity, or iv) billing information associated with one or more past bills from the user for the entity, and

billing information includes at least one of i) summary billing information, or ii) bill detail information.

32. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein:

the electronic commerce application is associated with electronic bill presentment, and

the electronic commerce user interface is one of i) a biller activation user interface pre-populated with at least a portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal, or ii) an invoicing activation user interface pre-populated with at least a

portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third ~~signal; and~~ signal.

33. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein:

the electronic commerce application is associated with electronic payment, and

the electronic commerce user interface is one of i) a payment request user interface pre-populated with at least a portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal, the pre-populated information identifying the entity as a payee, ii) a pending payment request user interface associated with a pending payment to the entity on behalf of the user, iii) a payment history user interface associated with one or more prior payments to the entity on behalf of the user, iv) a payee setup user interface pre-populated with at least of portion of the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted third signal, or (v) a request confirmation screen for presentation after submission of a payment request.

34. (New) The system of claim 16, wherein the processor is further configured to control at least a portion of the operations of the other network location.

35. (New) A method for accessing an electronic commerce function, comprising:

transmitting, from a first network station associated with a service provider to a second network station, a first signal including information associated with an entity, information identifying an electronic commerce function associated with the entity, and information identifying a network address associated with an electronic commerce application,

wherein a second signal is received at the network address from the second network station responsive to the received first signal, the second signal requesting access to the electronic commerce application and including at least a portion of the received information associated with the entity, and

wherein a third signal is transmitted to the second network location from the third network location responsive to the transmitted second signal, the third signal including information, based at least in part upon the information associated with the entity included in the transmitted second signal, associated with invoking the electronic commerce function.